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Date: September 7, 2006

Route To:

Subject: Equipment and Training Inventory System (EaTIS) Implementation Update

To: Regional Foresters, Station Directors, Area Director, IITF Director, Deputy Chiefs and WO Staff

Per 6300/5100/5700 memo dated February 9, 2006, the Equipment and Training Inventory System (EaTIS) has been operating in pilot phase for Regions 1, 5, and 6 throughout the summer. We have solicited, inspected, awarded, and evaluated performance for Emergency Equipment Rental Agreements (EERAs) and are entering aviation contract data in preparation for Aviation Business System (ABS) testing. Thank you to the pilot regions and all personnel who have performed in this important trial phase.

As a result of our pilot experience, we have re-examined the timetable for EaTIS implementation. The current timeline to launch EaTIS as a national application in fall 2006 will be delayed.

We have initiated an Independent Validation and Verification (IV&V) effort, to be completed mid-October. Results of this review along with results of testing with ABS and input from pilot units will be used to determine an updated EaTIS implementation timeline and strategy. We will stay in a pilot-mode until a new strategy is developed and approved by the end of the calendar year.

Overall plans to use EaTIS for incident payments have not changed. Implementation will reflect our objective to use EaTIS to initiate electronic payment of EERAs and aviation contracts.

We appreciate your understanding as we take these vital steps to ensure that EaTIS is ready to support a national effort. We remain committed to this effort and its role to help standardize and simplify processes while reducing costs, and we will keep you apprised of our findings and future plans.

Please direct any general questions to Cheryl Emch/WO/USDAFS, and system questions to Larry D Bowser/WO/USDAFS.

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cc: pdl fs eatis core team, pdl wo ops aqm directors, pdl wo spf fam regional fire directors, Mary A Szymoniak, Barbara Loving (BLM), Gayle Hueth, Ronald Wester,

